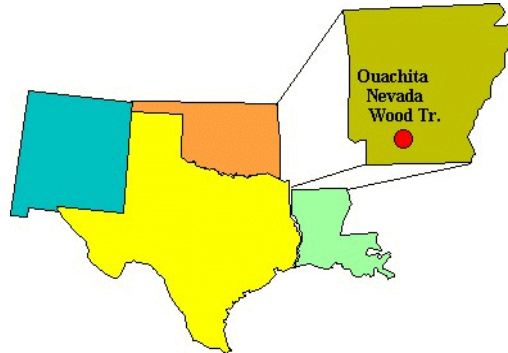


**OUACHITA NEVADA WOOD TREATER**  
**Reader, Ouachita County, Arkansas**

**EPA Region 6**  
**EPA ID# ARD042755231**  
**Site ID: 0604486**  
**State Congressional District: 4**  
**Fact Sheet Updated: September 2004**



**SITE DESCRIPTION** \_\_\_\_\_

- Location:** The Ouachita Nevada Wood Treater site is located 1/4 mile north of Reader, Ouachita County, Arkansas.
- Population:** An estimated 6 people live within one half mile of the site. The population within a mile of the site is estimated at 33 people and an estimated 692 people live within 4 miles of the site.
- Setting:** The site consists of an inactive wood treating facility approximately 5 acres in size. Highway 368 and an active sawmill are located to the east. Rural woodlands, wetlands, and an intermittent stream are found to the west and north of the facility. Sparse residential areas are located north and south of the facility. The facility property is not fenced and is accessible to the public. Drainage from the site flows into an unnamed intermittent tributary located west of the site. The intermittent tributary drains into Caney Creek approximately 1 mile northwest of the site. Caney Creek merges with the Little Missouri River approximately 1/2 mile downstream. The Little Missouri River flows approximately 12 miles before joining the Ouachita River. The wetlands, the Little Missouri River, and the Ouachita River are all used for recreational fishing.

**SITE HISTORY** \_\_\_\_\_

The facility operated as a saw mill from 1946 to 1987. From 1957 until 1972, the facility treated wood with pentachlorophenol (PCP). In 1972, the facility switched from PCP to a water solution of chromate, copper, and arsenic (CCA). Later, a "black oil" mixture of diesel and motor fuel oil was used in place of the CCA. In 1985, the owner declared bankruptcy.

In 1987, citizens concerns prompted the Arkansas Department of Environmental Quality (ADEQ), formerly the Arkansas Department of Pollution Control and Ecology, to conduct ground water and drinking water sampling. PCP and other wood treating chemicals were detected in an on-site ground water well. Contamination was not detected in nearby residential

wells. In October, 1994, citizens reported to the ADEQ a fire in one of the on-site tanks. A sample collected from the tank revealed the presence of chromium, copper, and PCP. Additional investigations were conducted by ADEQ and EPA between 1991 and 1996.

The Removal Assessment, conducted in 1999, identified soil contaminated with PCP concentrations as high as 738 milligrams per kilogram (mg/kg), arsenic contaminations as high as 4,500 mg/kg, and chromium contamination at 2,210 mg/kg. Based on these results, EPA started a time critical removal action in April 2000.

Following completion of the time critical removal action, EPA conducted an Engineering Evaluation/Cost Analysis (EE/CA) to determine if additional removal actions needed to be conducted at the site. The EE/CA, which began in November 2000, evaluated offsite contamination, determined the condition of ground water, and tested aquatic species. Sampling results from the EE/CA concluded that additional ground water investigation was warranted at the site.

Based on the results of the EE/CA, EPA began a Remedial Investigation/Feasibility Study (RI/FS) in October 2001. The main focus of the RI/FS was to determine the extent of ground water contamination.

## **WASTES AND VOLUMES**

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The EPA commenced a removal action on April 3, 2000, to alleviate releases from surface impoundments and soil contaminated with PCP and arsenic. EPA also took measures to pump and treat an on-site well that contained water contaminated with PCP, and to remove debris and scrap metal from the site. Residual sludge and waste material was removed from the above-ground storage tanks and waste material was removed from the surface impoundments. Wastes from the storage tanks and surface impoundments were permanently removed during excavation activities. Treated wood stockpiles were ground up and mixed in with the excavated soil to be disposed of off site. Approximately 4,067 tons of excavated contaminated soil was classified as hazardous solid waste and disposed of off site for incineration. Approximately 18,000 gallons of water from the on-site well was pumped into a mobile storage unit and treated through a sand and carbon filtration unit. A steel cap was then placed on top of the on-site well; the cap was bolted to the well casing and locked to prevent entry. Wood debris from a wooden office building was removed and disposed of off site as non-hazardous material. Metal debris and scrap metal were removed from the site and recycled.

## NATIONAL PRIORITIES LIST

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### NPL LISTING HISTORY

Site HRS Score: 50.00

Proposed Date: February 4, 2000

Final Date: May 11, 2000

## ENFORCEMENT HISTORY

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1989: ADPC&E sent Notice of Violation to the Potentially Responsible Parties, including proposed remedial action and civil penalties.

1999: General notice letters for potential liability and EPA conduct of removal action issued to identified potentially responsible parties.

## PRESENT STATUS AND ISSUES

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- The revised RI report has been approved by EPA. The draft Feasibility Study (FS) report has been submitted to EPA for review and comment.
- Based on the sampling results from the EE/CA, EPA is conducting a Remedial Investigation and Feasibility Study (RI/FS). The main purpose of the RI/FS is to evaluate contamination in ground water and determine if further actions are required to address the contamination.

## FUTURE PLANS

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- Once the revisions are complete, the report will be resubmitted to EPA.

## HUMAN HEALTH AND ECOLOGICAL RISK ASSESSMENT

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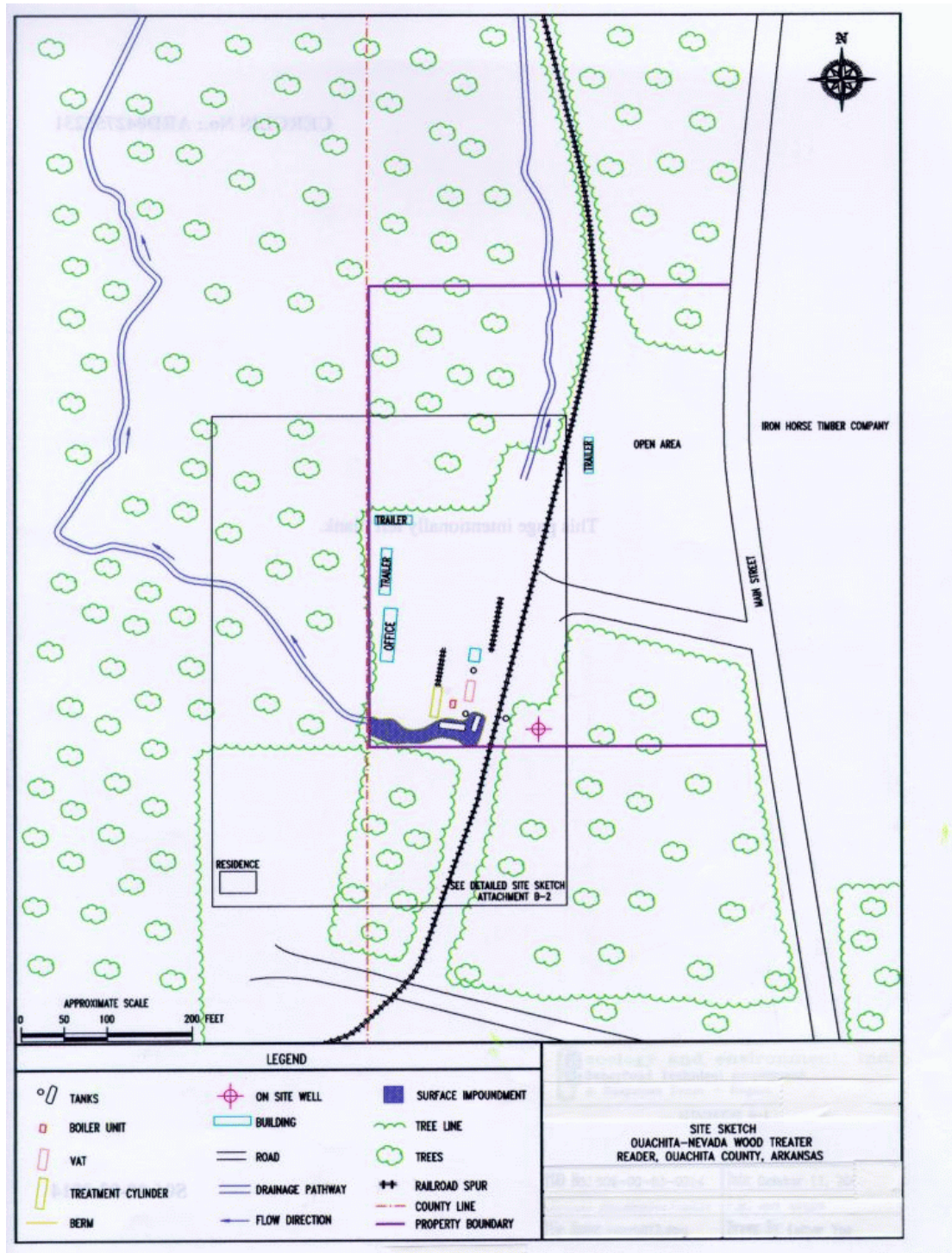
- The EE/CA evaluated risks to human health and the environment. Results from the RI/FS will be used to further evaluate risks to human health and the environment.

## RECORD OF DECISION

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No ROD has been signed for the site

## SITE MAP



## COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT

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### Public Notices:

February 4, 2000: Federal Register announcement of the proposal to list the Ouachita Nevada Wood treater site on the NPL.

February 11/12, 2000: Public Notice of February 4, 2000 NPL proposal and Technical Assistance Grant availability in the Camden News.

May 11, 2000: Federal Register announcement of the listing of the Ouachita Nevada Wood treater site on the NPL.

April, 2000: Superfund Site Update distributed detailing proposed removal actions.

**Site Repository: Ouachita County Court House**  
**145 Jefferson SW**  
**Camden, AR 71701**  
**870-837-2210**

## TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE GRANT

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Availability Notice: 2/11-12/00 - Camden News

Letters of Intent Received: None

“Final” TAG Application Received: n/a

Grant Award: n/a

## SITE CONTACTS

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### United States Environmental Protection Agency

**Remedial Project Manager:** Gary Baumgarten 214-665-6749

**On Scene Coordinator:** Nancy Jones 214-665-8041

**Community Involvement Coordinator:** Gary Baumgarten 214-665-6749

**Site Attorney:** Joseph Compton 214-665-8506

**EPA Regional Public Liaison:** Arnold Ondarza 303-312-6777

**EPA Superfund Region 6 Toll Free Number: 1-800-533-3508**

## REALIZED CLEANUP BENEFITS

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Removal of contaminated on-site soils, abandoned drums, and surface impoundments has significantly reduced the potential for contamination to migrate from the site into the intermittent stream and off-site wetlands.